(*e*) The Christian nominated was considered to be a satisfactory candidate having been a member of the Panchayat for nine years.

162. Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) the census of Nayars in the area under the jurisdiction of the Kozhinjampara Panchayat;

(*b*) how many of them have votes in the Panchayat election;

(*c*) are they represented in the Panchayat?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) No such caste-war village statistics are available from the Census report.

(*b*) 40.

(*c*) No.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Does the Hon'ble Minister know that this Christian stood for election?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I knew that he did not stand for election.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Which is correct? The answer to Question No. 162 (*b*) is 40. The other day the Minister said that there are only 37 or 36 Nayars and that he had that information from the Revenue Department. Now it is said it is 40 voters.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Because the figures fluctuate. That is the old figure. The population has increased now.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* May I know whether all these voters belonged to one family?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* No. They are distributed among *2* or *3* influential families at Nallepilli.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur-Rural*): At Nalleppilli?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* They come from Chittur, from Ambat House, Chondath House and from Angarath House. Every one of them I know.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Deducting these 3 from this 37, can we take the number of houses of Nayars to be more than 37?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Why? It may be the other way. In one house there may be *2* or 3 who are entitled to vote. In some others there may be less.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Then I say that the number of Nayar houses is more than 157.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* That may be. But this information is from the Panchayat President himself.

NAYARAMBALAM VILLAGE—TEMPORARY BRIDGE IN.

163. Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether a temporary bridge was recently constructed over a canal on the road going westwards from Veliathaparamba in Nayarambalam village and whether it was in use for five days;

(*b*) whether after this period it was removed from there one night and re-constructed over the Banerjee canal in Kadungasseri lane;

(*c*) if so, who removed the bridge and whether the removal was made under instructions from the Government;

(*d*) whether the Government have received any representations in regard to this matter from the inhabitants of Nayarambalam village; if so whether any action has been taken on the same?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) Yes, but it was not opened for traffic.

(*b*) Yes, but not during night.

(*c*) It was got removed by the contractor at the instance of the Panchayat and the Panchayat Overseer.

(*d*) Yes.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* Has there been any petition from the public requesting permission to construct a bridge at this place at their own expense?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Yes. There was a petition. I do not think there will be any objection if they put up a bridge at their own expense.

Mr. P. K. Madhava Menon *(Narakkal):* But they have not yet got the necessary sanction.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I thought I myself would visit the locality. The bridge, if put up, should not be shifted every third day, and I am sure there was something behind all these things. I thought I would ascertain the real situation and then issue orders. I shall do so, as soon as the budget session is over.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly